

EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

1. An elevation mechanism for a snowmobile of the type having a drive track at a rear end of the snowmobile for driving the snowmobile over a ground surface, the elevation mechanism having a transport position spaced above the ground surface and a use position supporting the rear end of the snowmobile with the drive track spaced above the ground surface, the elevation mechanism comprising:
  - a stabilizer brace;
  - a stabilizer brace mount for pivotally mounting the stabilizer brace on the snowmobile at a point spaced forwardly of the rear end of the snowmobile for pivotal movement between the transport and use positions;
  - a ground-engaging edge on the stabilizer brace spaced from the stabilizer brace mount; and
  - an extensible lifting mechanism for connecting at an upper end to the rear end of the snowmobile and connected at a lower end to the stabilizer brace for selective movement between an extended position and a compressed position;the parts being arranged such that in the use position the extensible lifting mechanism is in the extended position and the ground-engaging edge thereby engages the ground surface, while in the transport position the extensible lifting mechanism is in the compressed position and the ground-engaging edge thereby clears the ground surface.
2. The elevation mechanism of Claim 1 wherein the stabilizer brace comprises a substantially straight base member and two substantially parallel members connected to each other at a rearward end by the base member, the ground-engaging edge on the base member, two stabilizer brace mounts for pivotally mounting forward ends of the parallel members on opposite sides of the snowmobile.
3. The elevation mechanism of Claim 1 wherein the extensible lifting

mechanism is a scissors jack.

4. In a snowmobile of the type having a drive track at a rear end of the snowmobile for driving the snowmobile over a ground surface, an elevation mechanism for selectively supporting the drive track above the ground surface, the  
5 elevation mechanism comprising:

a stabilizer brace;

a stabilizer brace mount pivotally mounting the stabilizer brace on the snowmobile at a point spaced forwardly of the rear end of the snowmobile for pivotal movement between the transport and use positions;

10 a ground-engaging edge on the stabilizer brace spaced from the stabilizer brace mount; and

an extensible lifting mechanism connected at an upper end to the rear end of the snowmobile and at a lower end to the stabilizer brace for selective movement between an extended position and a compressed position;

15 the parts being arranged such that in the use position the extensible lifting mechanism is in the extended position and the ground-engaging edge thereby engages the ground surface, while in the transport position the extensible lifting mechanism is in the compressed position and the ground-engaging edge thereby clears the ground surface.

20 5. The invention of Claim 4 wherein the stabilizer brace comprises a substantially straight base member and two substantially parallel members connected to each other at a rearward end by the base member, the ground-engaging edge on the base member, two stabilizer brace mounts pivotally mounting forward ends of the parallel members on opposite sides of the snowmobile.

25 6. The invention of Claim 4 wherein the extensible lifting mechanism is a scissors jack.